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CITY OF SEATTLE

2011 JUL 29 PM 3:27

# City of Seattle

## Notice of Appointment

#16  
311712

<b>Name:</b> CITY CLERK <b>Christopher T. Stearns</b>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Executive Appointment <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reappointment <input type="checkbox"/> Legislative Appointment <input type="checkbox"/> Agency Appointment <input type="checkbox"/> PDA Council <input type="checkbox"/> PDA Constituency
<b>Residential Neighborhood:</b>  Auburn	<b>Zip Code:</b>  98092	<b>Contact Phone No.:</b>  206-902-6680
<b>Appointed to:</b>  At-large member of the Seattle Human Rights Commission		<b>Date of Appointment:</b>  July 29, 2013
<b>Authority (Ord., Res.):</b>  S.M.C. 3.14.920		<b>Term of Office</b> <b>From:</b> Confirmation <b>To:</b> July 22, 2013
<b>Background:</b> RE-appointment  Christopher serves as Vice Chair of the Commission. During his tenure on the Commission, Chris has been instrumental in the Commission's work on police accountability. Chris Stearns is from the Navajo Nation and practices Native American law with Hobbs, Straus, Dean & Walker LLP.  He co-founded Native Vote Washington, a non-profit, non-partisan organization whose mission is to increase the size and power of the Native vote in Washington. Chris has spent his career working in Native American public policy and has served as Indian Affairs Director under Energy Secretary Bill Richardson, Democratic Counsel to the U.S. House Committee on Natural Resources under Chairman George Miller, Deputy Counsel to the U.S. House Native American Affairs Subcommittee, North Dakota State Campaign Director for Vice President Al Gore, and Political Advisor to Tex Hall, President of the National Congress of American Indians.  Chris also has served on the Boards of the Clinton-Gore Alumni Association and the National Organization on Fetal Alcohol Syndrome. Chris occasionally writes columns and articles for the newspaper Indian Country Today. Chris is a graduate of Williams College and Cornell Law School.		
<b>Authorizing Signature:</b>  Michael M. R.		<b>Name and Title of Officer Making Appointments:</b>  Mayor Mike McGinn



## **CHRISTOPHER T. STEARNS**

### **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

#### **Of Counsel, Hobbs, Straus, Dean & Walker LLP, Washington, D.C. and Seattle, WA (1989 – 1994; 2001 – Present)**

- Practice of federal Indian law specializing in the representation of tribes on sovereignty, energy, labor relations, bond authority, and campaign law.
- Assist tribes wishing to advance public policy through political and policy expertise gained during service in the House of Representatives and the Clinton Administration.
- Clients include or have included the Navajo Nation, MHA Nation, Native Nations Securities, and the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians.

#### **Communications Director and General Counsel, the Inter-Tribal Economic Alliance (2006-Present)**

- Coordinate and provide communications, press, public relations strategy and legal advice.
- Provide strategy and direct supervision in capital development, public relations, legislative strategy and advice for Native American tribes and businesses.
- Specialization in Broadband Access, Tribal-Labor relations, entrepreneurship, and Defense Department digital conversion project contracting.

#### **Press Director and General Counsel, Native Vote Washington (2008-Present)**

- Responsible for national and state Media relations and communications policy.
- Responsible for campaign law and non-profit law compliance for a 501(c)(4) corporation.
- Directed first-ever national poll of Native American voters on Presidential candidate preference and right track versus wrong track, resulting in national exposure.
- Directed and published Gregoire and Rossi Candidate survey on Native American issues.

#### **Coordinator, Native Vote Project, Washington State Democratic Coordinated Campaign (2008)**

- Helped Washington State Democrats and Change for America achieve **85%** Democratic performance and **65%** Native vote turnout for President Barack Obama's, Governor Christine Gregoire's, and Public Lands Commissioner Peter Goldmark's successful 2008 campaigns in Washington State.
- Oversight of key field operations, GOTV, media buys, media scripting, voter file, and field work for Tulalip Tribes, Puyallup Tribe, Muckleshoot Tribe, Colville Tribes, Yakama Nation, Lummi Nation, and Quinault Tribe.

#### **Freelance Journalist, Seattle, Washington (2006 - Present)**

- Freelance correspondent for national Native American newspaper *Indian Country Today*.

**Political Advisor to the President, the National Congress of American Indians (2001 – 2005)**

- Principal advisor to President Tex Hall on all major issues affecting Native Americans.
- Developed strategic national initiatives – 100,000 Jobs by 2010, 1 Million Votes 2004, Sovereignty Protection Initiative, State of the Indian Nations addresses.
- Provided communications strategy, drafted speeches and Congressional testimony.
- Managed Hall's winning Presidential campaigns in 2001 and 2003.

**Campaign Consultant, Kerry-Edwards Presidential Campaign (2004)**

- Provided policy, communications, radio and print media buying, speechwriting, and native vote field organizing services to the Kerry-Edwards New Mexico campaign.
- Coordinated Native meetings with Senator Kerry, President Clinton, and General Clark.
- Oversaw the field organization of Navajo and Pueblo precincts.

**Senior Advisor to the Director, Office of Policy, U.S. Dept. of Energy (2000-2001)**

- Advised the Director on national energy policy, including development of renewable and non-renewable energy resources, federal Indian policy, and electricity deregulation.

**State Director – North Dakota, Gore-Lieberman Presidential Campaign (2000)**

- First-ever Native American appointed state director in Presidential campaign history.
- Oversaw all statewide political, communications, legal, and get-out-the-vote activities including constituency outreach to labor, agriculture, business, and education.

**Director for Indian Affairs, U.S. Department of Energy (1998 - 2000)**

- Principal advisor to U.S. Energy Secretary Bill Richardson on Native American issues.
- Responsible for overall direction of Native American initiatives and policy, including first-ever study of Indian energy usage and needs, largest voluntary return of Indian lands to a tribe, first-ever set-aside of preference power for Indian tribes, revision of the Department's Indian policy, creation of "Indian 101" sensitivity training sessions for senior staff, and drafting of Indian energy development legislation.

**Democratic Counsel, Committee on Natural Resources, U.S. House of Representatives (1995-1998)**

- Provided legal, policy, and procedural advice to Ranking Member George Miller (D-CA) and other Democratic Committee members on legislative and oversight matters affecting American Indians and Alaska Natives.
- Coordinated legislation and oversight of Indian education, gaming, health care, Self-Governance, welfare reform, adoption, and trust funds.

**Counsel, Subcommittee on Native American Affairs, Committee on Natural Resources, U.S. House of Representatives (1994).**

- Advised Subcommittee Chairman Bill Richardson (D-NM) on legislative and oversight matters affecting Native Americans including gaming, federal recognition of tribes, health care, and tribal Self-Determination, including drafting of key public laws.

## EDUCATION

- Cornell Law School**, Ithaca, New York. J.D., 1989, *with Concentration in Public Law*.  
President, American Indian Law Students Association (1988-1989).
- Williams College**, Williamstown, Massachusetts. B.A., 1986, *with Honors in History*.  
*Thesis*: Political Foundations of the Navajo Tribal Council.  
Summer study of history and art at **New College, Oxford University**, England (1985).
- The Lawrenceville School**, Lawrenceville, New Jersey; 1982 graduate.

## CIVIC ACTIVITIES

- Legal Advisor, Native American Civic Employees, City of Seattle**  
· Advisor on incorporation of Native American employees association (2008).
- Clinton-Gore Alumni Association**, Washington, DC  
· Secretary and Member, Board of Directors for non-profit organization open to Political Appointees in Clinton-Gore Administration (2001-2005).
- Richardson for Governor 2002**, Santa Fe, NM  
· Volunteer Navajo Nation coordinator and Central Campaign Liaison for McKinley County.
- National Organization on Fetal Alcohol Syndrome**, Washington, DC  
· Member, Board of Directors Executive Committee (1999-2005);  
· National Co-Chairman, *Indian Youth 2004* teen FAS awareness campaign (2001-2005);
- National Native American Bar Association**, Albuquerque, NM  
· Member, Board of Directors (1993-1994).

## MEDIA PROFILES

- "Advocates Push for Washington Native Vote Data, Participation", PBS Newshour, 2008,  
[http://www.pbs.org/newshour/vote2008/july-dec08/wanativevote\\_10-08.html](http://www.pbs.org/newshour/vote2008/july-dec08/wanativevote_10-08.html)
- "Paying Attention to the Native American Vote", PBS Frontline, 2008,  
<http://www.pbs.org/frontlineworld/election2008/2008/11/paying-attention-to-the-n.html>
- "Navajo Lawyer Has Devoted his Life to Working on Behalf of Native People", *News From Indian Country*, mid-April, 2001.
- "Navajo Named Gore Campaign Director for North Dakota", *Indian Country Today*, October 11, 2000, <http://www.indiancountry.com/index-lakota-2000-10-11.shtml>
- "Diné Philosophies Take Root at DOE...", *Indian Country Today*, June 28, 2000,  
<http://www.indiancountry.com/articles/lifeways-2000-06-28-01.shtml>

## REFERENCES

- New Mexico Governor Bill Richardson**  
**Congressman George Miller**, Chairman of the U.S. House Education and Labor Committee  
**Tex G. Hall**, former NCAI President and Chairman of the Mandan, Hidatsa & Arikara Nation

# Seattle Human Rights Commission

July 2011

15 members: Per SMC 3.14.920, confirmed by City Council; **2-year** terms

- 7 appointed by Mayor, confirmed by City Council
- 7 appointed by City Council
- 1 appointed by the Commission, confirmed by City Council

1 Get Engaged Member: Per SMC 3.14.920, appointed by the Mayor, confirmed by City Council; a single term of **1-year**

D	G	Name	Appointed	Term Ends	Term #	Position	Appointed By
6	M	Lewis, Andrew	12/15/08	07/22/11	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Secretary	City Council
1	M	Aspuria, Jesse	12/15/08	07/22/12	2 <sup>nd</sup>		City Council
2	F	Powers, Mica	12/15/08	07/22/12	2 <sup>nd</sup>		City Council
-	-	<i>Vacant (Toussaint)</i>		07/22/12			<b>City Council</b>
6	F	Andrade, Jessica	01/05/10	07/22/13	1 <sup>st</sup>		City Council
4	F	Dahlbacka, Nika	09/09/10	07/22/13	3 <sup>rd</sup>		City Council
-	-	<i>Vacant (Donegan)</i>		07/22/13			<b>City Council</b>
6	F	Solomon, Roslyn	08/18/08	07/22/12	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Chair	Commission
2	M	Carter, Damien	02/17/09	07/22/12	2 <sup>nd</sup>		Mayor
2	F	Osborne, Merri Ann	02/19/08	07/22/12	2 <sup>nd</sup>		Mayor
1	F	Yogi, Jennifer	07/30/10	07/22/12	1 <sup>st</sup>		Mayor
-	-	<i>Vacant (Shwab)</i>		07/22/12			<b>Mayor</b>
6	M	<b>Penner, Martin</b>	<b>07/30/10</b>	<b>07/22/13</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup></b>		<b>Mayor</b>
6	M	<b>Peters, Dr. Mike S.</b>	<b>07/30/09</b>	<b>07/22/13</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup></b>		<b>Mayor</b>
4	M	<b>Stearns, Christopher T.</b>	<b>07/30/09</b>	<b>07/22/13</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>Vice Chair</b>	<b>Mayor</b>
1	F	Negrete, Andrea	09/01/11	09/01/12	Only	Get Engaged	Mayor

(sorted by appointing authority, term end date, and name)

## Diversity

					(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
	Men	Women	Vacant	Minority	Asian-American	African-American	Hispanic Latin@	Native-American	Other	Caucasian
Mayor	4	2	1	4	1	2	0	1	0	2
Council	2	3	2	3	1	1	0	1	0	2
Commission	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Get Engaged	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>

